

## 2011 Al Seiff Award Lecture

### THE HUYGENS STORY

Jean-Pierre Lebreton<sup>1,2</sup>, <sup>1</sup> ESA/ESTEC, Solar System Missions Division, Noordwijk, The Netherlands. [jean-pierre.lebreton@esa.int](mailto:jean-pierre.lebreton@esa.int), <sup>2</sup> CNRS/LPC2E, 3A, Avenue de la Recherche Scientifique, 45071 Orleans Cedex, France, [jean-pierre.lebreton@cnrs-orleans.fr](mailto:jean-pierre.lebreton@cnrs-orleans.fr)

In this lecture, I will tell the story of (Cassini-)Huygens with emphasis on the role played by the young scientists, engineers and students I directly worked with in the Planetary Missions Division, and later the Solar System Missions Division at ESA/ESTEC. I will illustrate how their work contributed to i) getting Huygens ready for its historical descent in Titan's atmosphere on January 14 2005, ii) the post-flight analysis and interpretation of Huygens data and iii) Huygens legacy.